Pollution in rivers

†4043. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred on the cleaning and preventing water pollution of big rivers like the Ganga and Yamuna during the last five years;

(b) whether Government are formulating any permanent plan for cleaning and keeping river pollution free; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) adiminstered by the Ministry of Environment & Forests presently cover 160 towns located along polluted stretches of 34 rivers spread over 20 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4735.42 crores. During the last five financial years, an expenditure of Rs. 1332.31 crores is reported to have been incurred on implementation of the pollution abatement works in these rivers taken up under NRCP, out of which, the expenditure incurred for the rivers Ganga excluding its tributaries and Yamuna amount to Rs. 196.35 crores and Rs. 160.07 crores respectively.

(b) and (c) The First River Action Plan, namely, the Ganga Action Plan was taken up by the Union Ministry of Environment & Forests in the year 1985. However, with the progress of time and the need for taking up works in more rivers, its scope has increased to cover other major rivers of the country in stages from 1993 onwards. All these works are undertaken under NRCP, which is an ongoing and continuous activity, under which, various schemes of pollution abatement of river are implemented based upon the current estimates of the pollution load of the respective rivers.

Proposals of Madhya Pradesh

†4044. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received proposals from

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi